ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention is a method for estimating a NOx occlusion amount of a NOx occlusion catalyst interposed in an exhaust passage in an engine, which is constituted such that a NOx occlusion amount is estimated by using a polynomial reflected with NOx occlusion characteristics of a NOx occlusion catalyst and each coefficient of the polynomial is sequentially corrected on the basis of NOx purification rates actually measured.